

Chapter 15.22**SCREENING AND LANDSCAPING**

(2491-7/81, 2708-12/84, 3037-5/90)

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15.22.010 Screening--Developed Areas. On or before July 1, 1983, all oil wells and tanks located in developed areas, as defined in this title, shall be screened by a fence enclosure constructed of one of the following materials:

- (a) A solid masonry wall;
- (b) A chain link fabric with three and one-half (3 1/2) inch mesh interwoven with redwood slats. The Director of Community Development may approve the use of other opaque materials for use with chain link fabric if he finds such materials are compatible with surrounding uses and effectively screen the oil operation;
- (c) Any other material, compatible with surrounding uses, which effectively screens the oil operation site, approved by the Director of Community Development;
- (d) All fencing, masonry walls, redwood slatting, or other comparable materials for use with chain link fabric shall be of a solid neutral color, compatible with surrounding uses, and maintained in a neat, orderly, and secure condition. Neutral colors shall include sand, grey, and unobtrusive shades of green, blue and brown, or other colors approved by the Fire Chief.
(2491-7/81)

15.22.020 Screening--Drilling, Redrilling And Activation. Within sixty (60) days of completion of drilling or redrilling, or within sixty (60) days of activation of an idle well if such well is located in a developed area, as defined in this title, such well shall be screened by a fence enclosure which conforms to the requirements of this chapter, the provisions set out elsewhere in this code, and the regulations of the Division of Oil and Gas contained in the California Administrative Code as they presently exist or may hereafter be amended. (2491-7/81)

15.22.030 Screening Setbacks. Minimum setbacks for all screening shall meet the provisions of the Huntington Beach Ordinance Code applicable to the oil operation site but in no case shall be less than five (5) feet from the ultimate right-of-way of any public street. The Director of Community Development may reduce such required setbacks where an oil well or other necessary equipment is or must located in the setback areas, in which case special landscaping requirements for screening purposes may be imposed. (2491-7/81)

15.22.040 Landscaping For Developed Areas--Drilling And Activation. Prior to the issuance of any drilling or activation permit, a landscaping plan which meets the requirements of this chapter shall be submitted for review and approval by the Fire Chief and the Director of Community Development. Within sixty (60) days after completion of drilling or redrilling or within sixty (60) days after activation of an idle well, any oil operation site in a developed area, as defined in this title, shall be landscaped in conformance with the plan submitted and approved and the specifications contained in this chapter. Landscaping shall not be required for any well which is not visible from a public street unless the well is within a public park, beach or recreation area which has been developed and open for public use. (2491-7/81)

15.22.045 Landscape Irrigation. When landscaping is required by this code, the landscaped areas are to be irrigated by an automatic watering system which provides complete coverage to all landscaped areas. All supply and distribution piping shall be located underground. All landscaping shall be maintained in a neat, clean, and healthy condition. Maintenance shall include proper pruning, mowing, disease and rodent control, weeding, litter removal, fertilizing, watering, and plant replacement as necessary.

15.22.050 Landscaping--Minimum Area. The minimum area required to be landscaped at an oil operation site shall be the front and exterior side yard setbacks for the district. Any area enclosed by a fence meeting the requirements of this title shall be excluded from the minimum area to be landscaped. (2491-7/81, 2708-12/84)

15.22.060 Landscaping--Minimum requirements. The minimum number of trees and shrubs per square foot shall be as follows:

Square footage of Minimum Landscape	Minimum Trees	Minimum Shrubs
0-149	1	3
150-249	2	6
250-349	3	9
350-449	4	12
450-549	5	15
550-649	6	18
650-749	7	21
750-849	8	24
850-949	9	27
950-1499	10	30
1500-1999	12	36
2000 -	as determined by the Director of Community Development	

The Director of Community Development may reduce the number of trees and shrubs if, in his opinion, the topography, configuration or existing vegetation on a site warrants such reduction.

Trees shall be at least fifteen (15) gallon size, and shrubs shall be at least five (5) gallon size. Minimum landscaping shall also include suitable ground cover. An automatic irrigation system may be required by the Fire Chief when it is necessary to sustain and promote healthy plant life.

The following plants are acceptable for use in landscaping, provided, however, that the Director of Community Development may approve other plants which he finds adaptable to the particular site and provide effective screening of the oil operation:

Trees: Eucalyptus Camaldulensis (Red River gum); Eucalyptus Sideroxylon (Red Iron bark); Metrosideros Tomentosa (New Zealand Christmas tree); Myoporum Laetum (Myoporum tree).

Shrubs: Nerium Oleander (oleander); Escallonia Fradesi (Pink Princess); Metrosideros Tomentosa (New Zealand Christmas tree--bush form); Myoporum Laetum (Myoporum--bush form); Photinia Fraseri (Red Leaf Photinia); Raphiolepis Indica Springtime (Pink Indian hawthorn); Carissa Grandiflora (natal plum); Moraea Irioidies (fortnight lily); hemerocallis hybrids (day lily); Agapanthus Africanus (Lily of the Nile); Liriope Gigantea (turf lily).

Ground Cover: Mesembryanthemum (ice plant); Osteospermum; Fruticosum (African daisy); Gazania Splendens (Gazania); Hedera Helix Hahnii (needle point ivy).

When feasible, all plant holes shall be twice normal size, and the planting medium shall be of good quality, imported soil. All landscaping shall be maintained in a neat, healthy condition.

Dead vegetation and litter shall not be allowed to gather. The replacement of dead trees and other vegetation shall be made in conformance with the approved plan within thirty (30) days of written notice. (2491-7/81, 2708-12/84)